

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

May 29, 2010 • 2:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:18

**Service next Sabbath: 2:00 p.m.**

### Order of service

<b>Song leader</b> .....	Neil McIver
<b>Pianist</b> .....	Dixon Cartwright
<b>First sermon</b> .....	J. L. Roden
<b>Teen class—Classroom #1</b> .....	Travis Self
<b>Bridges class—Library</b> .....	Penny Harris
<b>Kids' class—Classroom #2</b> .....	Joni Pendley
<b>Interactive Bible study—Foyer</b> .....	Dave Havir
<b>Second sermon</b> .....	Dave Havir

### Quick takes

1. Alaska Feast cruise—Dennis Mouland reports that we have 83 people signed up for the Alaska cruise. Our travel agent (Kathy Summers) has informed us that the ship is filling fast with other guests. We strongly suggest that interested individuals complete their reservations in the next couple of weeks. Kathy can be reached at 1-800-860-7135.
2. Thank you—Representatives of the Big Sandy school district thank the congregation for providing the building and for doing the catering for their banquet in the building last Monday evening. People remarked about the quality provided by members of the congregation.
3. Thank you—Representatives of Woodvale School thank the congregation for providing the building last Thursday.
4. Nomination process ends today—The deadline for the nomination process ends today at 5:00 p.m. Members of the congregation are invited to submit a nomination form.
5. Potluck next week—There is a potluck meal scheduled immediately after the church service next Sabbath.

6. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "The Fruits of Weakness" by Charles Krauthammer.
7. Among Friends—This week's article is "The Majority Supports Arizona" by Dave Havir.
8. Eye on the World—This week's collection by Dave Havir has eight pages.

## Prayer updates

**Charles Black** had the isotope removed from his left eye on Monday. He requests continued prayers for his recovery from the melanoma tumor in his eye.

**Ron Dart** was readmitted to the East Texas Medical Center in Tyler on Friday, May 21. He was diagnosed with a urinary tract infection.

**Pat Stewart** of the local United congregation reports that her outpatient surgery on Thursday went well.

**Lucy Richmond** of the local United congregation reports that a change in her blood pressure medications and in her thinner seems to have taken care of her recent problems.

## New prayer requests

**Laura Moran** was diagnosed this week with pneumonia.

**Hazel Gooch** of Walnut Hill, Fla. (aunt of **Anthony Kimmons**), was transported by LifeFlight to a hospital in Mobile, Ala., this week. She was diagnosed with congestive heart failure. Also, the family learned that one of her heart valves is totally blocked and that another of her heart valves is leaking. She is 85 years old. The doctor has been giving her oxygen and draining fluids, but he does not recommend doing any procedures for the heart valves. She was moved out of ICU and may be going home shortly.

Here are excerpts from a report about **Cody Kitts** of Cincinnati, Ohio, who has a tree-trimming business: "He took a 40-foot fall from a tree when his rope got caught in a chipper and pulled him off a limb and slammed him to the ground. Cody has a broken femur and kneecap. Also, he has cracked vertebrae in his neck."

**David Macaraeg** of the Philippines was involved in a motorcycle accident this week and apparently sustained a "double compound fracture of both bones of his left front arm."

**Ken Omick** of Longview died on Thursday after his battle with prostate cancer. Please remember his wife, **Arlette**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

**Bob Luckabaugh** of Bowling Green, Ky., died on Thursday after his battle with esophagus cancer. Please remember his wife, **Marcie**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

## Bible study on May 26

On Wednesday, May 26, Dave Havir gave a Bible study titled "Acts 2:38-40."

**Acts 2:38**—Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

**Acts 2:39**—"For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

**1 Corinthians 7:14**—For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband; otherwise your children would be unclean, but now they are holy.

**Acts 2:40**—And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation."

## Scriptures to consider

**Isaiah 1:5-7**—Why should you be stricken again? You will revolt more and more. The whole head is sick, and the whole heart faints. From the sole of the foot even to the head, there is no soundness in it, but wounds and bruises and putrefying sores; they have not been closed or bound up, or soothed with ointment. Your country is desolate, your cities are burned with fire; strangers devour your land in your presence; and it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers.

**Amos 6:3-6**—Woe to you who put far off the day of doom, who cause the seat of violence to come near; who lie on beds of ivory, stretch out on your couches, eat lambs from the flock and calves from the midst of the stall; who sing idly to the sound of stringed instruments, and invent for yourselves musical instruments like David; who drink wine from bowls, and anoint yourselves with the best ointments, but are not grieved for the affliction of Joseph.

## "The Fruits of Weakness"

Mr. Krauthammer is a syndicated columnist for *The Washington Post*. His column dated May 21, 2010, is reprinted here by permission. As reprinted, this article is from the "Edifying the Body" section of the Church of God Big Sandy's Web site, churchofgodbigandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of May 29-30, 2010.

By Charles Krauthammer

**W**ASHINGTON, D.C.—It is perfectly obvious that Iran's latest uranium maneuver, brokered by Brazil and Turkey, is a ruse. Iran retains more than enough enriched uranium to make a bomb. And it continues enriching at an accelerated pace and to a greater purity

(20 percent). Which is why the French foreign ministry immediately declared that the trumpeted temporary shipping of some Iranian uranium to Turkey will do nothing to halt Iran's nuclear program.

It will, however, make meaningful sanctions more difficult. America's proposed Security Council resolution is already

laughably weak—no blacklisting of Iran’s central bank, no sanctions against Iran’s oil and gas industry, no nonconsensual inspections on the high seas. Yet Turkey and Brazil—both current members of the Security Council—are so opposed to sanctions that they will not even discuss the resolution. And China will now have a new excuse to weaken it further.

But the deeper meaning of the uranium-export stunt is the brazenness with which Brazil and Turkey gave cover to the mullahs’ nuclear ambitions and deliberately undermined U.S. efforts to curb Iran’s program.

The real news is that already notorious photo: the president of Brazil, our largest ally in Latin America, and the prime minister of Turkey, for more than half a century the Muslim anchor of NATO, raising hands together with Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, the most virulently anti-American leader in the world.

That picture—a defiant, triumphant take-that-Uncle-Sam—is a crushing verdict on the Obama foreign policy. It demonstrates how rising powers, traditional American allies, having watched this administration in action, have decided that there’s no cost in lining up with America’s enemies and no profit in lining up with a U.S. president given to apologies and appeasement.

They’ve watched President Barack Obama’s humiliating attempts to appease Iran, as every rejected overture is met with abjectly renewed U.S. negotiating offers. American acquiescence reached such a point that the president was late, hesitant and flaccid in expressing even rhetorical support for democracy demonstrators who were being brutally suppressed and whose call for regime change offered the potential for the most significant U.S. strategic advance in the region in 30 years.

They’ve watched America acquiesce to Russia’s re-exerting sway over Eastern Europe, over Ukraine (pressured by Russia last month into extending for 25 years its lease of the Black Sea naval base at Sevastopol) and over Georgia (Russia’s de facto annexation of Abkhazia and South Ossetia is no longer an issue under the Obama “reset” policy).

They’ve watched our appeasement of Syria, Iran’s agent in the Arab Levant—

sending our ambassador back to Syria even as it tightens its grip on Lebanon, supplies Hezbollah with Scuds, and intensifies its role as the pivot of the Iran-Hezbollah-Hamas alliance. The price for this ostentatious flouting of the United States and its interests? Ever more eager U.S. “engagement.”

They’ve observed the administration’s gratuitous slap at Britain over the Falklands, its contemptuous treatment of Israel, its undercutting of the Czech Republic and Poland, and its indifference to Lebanon and Georgia. And, in Latin America, they see not just U.S. passivity as Venezuela’s Hugo Chavez organizes his anti-American “Bolivarian” coalition while deepening military and commercial ties with Iran and Russia. They saw active U.S. support in Honduras for a pro-Chavez would-be dictator seeking unconstitutional powers in defiance of the democratic institutions of that country.

This is not just an America in decline. This is an America in retreat—accepting, ratifying and declaring its decline, and inviting rising powers to fill the vacuum.

Nor is this retreat by inadvertence. This is retreat by design and, indeed, on principle. It’s the perfect fulfillment of Mr. Obama’s adopted Third World narrative of American misdeeds, disrespect and domination from which he has come to redeem us and the world. Hence his foundational declaration at the U.N. General Assembly last September that “no one nation can or should try to dominate another nation” (guess who’s been the dominant nation for the last two decades?) and his dismissal of any “world order that elevates one nation or group of people over another.” (NATO? The West?)

Given Mr. Obama’s policies and principles, Turkey and Brazil are acting rationally. Why not give cover to Mr. Ahmadinejad and his nuclear ambitions? As the United States retreats in the face of Iran, China, Russia and Venezuela, why not hedge your bets? There’s nothing to fear from Mr. Obama, and everything to gain by ingratiating yourself with America’s rising adversaries. After all, they actually believe in helping one’s friends and punishing one’s enemies.